

An after Game at Irish :

OR, THE

HISTORY

OF

IRELAND;

Since the time of King *HENRY*
the *SECOND*:

Who first sent over an Army thither.



Printed in the Year, 1649.

THE HISTORY OF THE

ROYAL NAVY

FROM THE FIRST BEGINNINGS TO THE PRESENT TIME

IN TWO VOLUMES

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ESQ.

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An after Game at Irish.



In respect of the debate I have lately heard, touching the service of Ireland, and that it is a Country whereof I have had some wofull experience; I thinke it not amisse to speake a little; some decline that service as they say out of conscience, and thus they argue; wee have now abolished the Kingly Government out of England, because the Kings came in by Conquest, and have long enslaved us: Therefore to shake off that tyranny, wee have killed the late King, and expulsed his Issue; then why should wee prepare to conquer, or offer that force and violence to another Nation which wee will not indure our selves? How valide and just the first branch of this argument is, I have either shewed in another place, or will not now dispute it; yet truely for the latter part it is but just and right, wee should not doe that to others wee would not have done to our selves: Then concerning the interest of the English people in that Kingdome; most certaine it is, they have none but what they obtained by donation or Letters Patents, from their Kings of England, except some few that came in by purchase from the Natives: Now let us briefly see what title our Kings themselves had: Some say that *Edgar*, *Arthur*, and *Churgunstus* Kings of Brittain, were proprietars of the Kingdome of Ireland; I have seen an old Record, which saith, that one *Gathelus* a Duke (being banished out of Spaine) came with his wife *Scota*, and their Fleet of *Baldenses*, where hovering upon the British Coast to seeke habitation, and how that the said *Churgunstus* assigned these wanderers some part of Ireland to reside in: Now how can a man give a Farme or Freehold to another that hath no right or title unto it himselfe? But this if I mistake not the computation is thirteen hundred yeares sithence, or neere upon; therefore in this brieve, this inkling (in regard of opinions in severall Authors) wee will leave these first claimes, and speake of that which is of certaine knowledge since the last conquest of England I doe not meane this last *(bima-ra)*, (or as some say *Hidra*) but I meane that overture in our King *Henry* the

the seconds time: yet first I would gladly undeceive some of my English countrey men and fellow sufferers who think of this eruption in *Ireland*, with the breaking of the English Plantation, and resenting the said sufferings, in killing, robbing, and other inhumane cruelties to be such, and so unjust, as never before was heard of. And true it is, it was very unjust, and cruell to kill and rob any of us that were the last Planters that came in (as we thought) upon a warrantable title; but what seemeth unjust to man, is just with God; for surely if we look into the originall it will appeare that we have suffered (if I may so say) for the cruelties our Country men formerly shewed unto that people, and therefore it seems God hath permitted this Nationall revenge. Now if we consider this, we the surviving remnant of the last Planters have the lesse cause to condemne this people; for the Law saith *caveat emptor*, and (as the souldiers of this Army say) What had we the last Planters to do there? Yes for all this, we had better warrant for our latter comming, then our Predecessours had for their first, as shall anon appear: and if we can have patience, God in his good time will repair us: but first as I promised, I will relate (to such as know it not) the cause of our going over in *Henry* the seconds time. I write at this time what is in my memory without perusing any Authour, if there be any mistake in circumstance, the substance is yet true: And thus it was, *Mack Murrow* King of *Leinster* had not onely corrupted and vitiated the wife of his next neighbour the King of *Meth*, but had also stole her away; whereupon the King of *Meth* invaded *Mack Murroghs* Country, and after many conflicts, beats the said King of *Leinster* out of his Territories, himself escaped in person, fled over to our King *Henry* the second, craves aid against his Adversary the King of *Meth* with offer also to become his Liegeman, and to pay him tribute for his Kingdom of *Leinster*, if it might be regain'd, and he reinstall'd by the King of *Englands* assistance.

But at this time King *Henry* had businesse enough in *France*, and could not attend this petty conquest; yet whether he took no notice of the cause, or whether he thought the matter slight, for he himself had also a *Paramour*, he gave way to such adventurers, and voluntaries as would go over. *Mack Murrogh*, contract with Earl *Strongbow* Lord of *Chepstoe Fitzallen*, *Fitz Steven*, and diverse others: *Strongbow* was to have *Mack Murroghs* daughter in marriage, with some Port townes, and what more he could gain from the enemy: *Strongbow* had some occasions that a while detained him; in the mean time the forces went over under the conduct of *Raimond de Gross*, which landed at *Wexford*; from thence they made

made inroads, (*Raymond* commanding in chief) and after many bitter conflicts, with losse on both sides, *Raymond* worsted the *Irish*, and brought them to submit: they poore soules being overpowred, craved pardon for their lives, and offered to acknowledge the King of *England* for their Sovereigne Lord, and to hold of him in Fee. *Raymond* like a Christian Souldier made an Oration in the Head of his Army; shewing that now they were no longer to be reputed enemies, seeing they had submitted and offered fealty, but were to be taken into protection both for life & goods; this motion so just and reasonable was rejected by the rude Souldiers, who, (it seems) being more greedy of the prey and spoil then the glory and conquest, alledged that if they spared these which first had made such sharp resistance, it would encourage the next they had to deal with, to stand out likewise, and so prolong the matter they came about: and thus without more adoe (much against good *Raymonds* mind) our *English* Souldiers (in cold blood) put the poore *Irish* to death; some by the Sword, some by drowning, some thrown headlong from rocks; and in this cruell manner did we make our entrance, and upon this most infamous quarrell. [See *Doctor Hammers Chronicle.*]

Therefore say the *Irish* at this day (such as understand their own story) that the measure we have lately received is but *Lex talionis*, Like for like. It is just with God to punish a Nation for the former sinnes of that Nation; though we the last Planters have thus wrongfully suffered in our own particulars: For our last going over to plant, and inhabit was upon good and just grounds as shall by and by appear: but first a little more of our Adventurers. Anon after this first defeat given comes over Earle *Strongbow* himself, and afterwards Sir *Hugh Lacy*, Sir *John de Courcy*, and many moe men of Renown, and famous warriours; so well they sped, and gaine so much upon the *Irish* that *Henry* the second after his troubles in *France* had respite, was invited to come over himselfe in person; to him they made a generall submission willingly, received him for their Sovereigne Lord, and desired to live under the protection of the *English* Lawes, as being oppressed by many Kings and Governours of their own Country. They in like manner submitted to King *John* and to *Richard* the second in their own persons, to deputies, Sir *Anthony St. Leger*, the Lord *Leonard Gray*: and lastly after *Tyrones* action, to King *James*. Now whether all these generall submissions, accepting Lawes and Statutes, with their free consent in Parliament, according to the constitution of *England*, and according to their own earnest desires, can make the Kings of *England* a good title, I leave for better judgements to re-

live: But of this I am confident the many defections, and relapses that Kingdome hath had (whereby we have lost both men and treasure) hath rather happened as a judgement of God for the cruelty of the Souldiers under the first Adventurers formerly mentioned, then out of the desire our Kings might have to be acknowledged Sovereigne over a barbarous people oppressed by their own Governours, and whom they intended to reduce to civility by communicating our Lawes unto them.

Here you see what title our Kings of *England* have to this Country: and by the defections of *Desmond*, in *Munster*, *Tyrone*, and *Odogherly* in *Ulster*, upon the escheates and forfeitures thereupon according to our Lawes of *England* (received there also many hundred of yeares, and with great willingnesse upon each of the aforesaid of severall submissions) our *English* Planters have from time to time gone over to inhabit, and by Grants and Letters Pattents from our severall Princes to hold by such termes and conditions as is therein expressed: from the said undertakers, likewise have the under tenants and common sort of people had their holding: now because I know there are some thousands which have lately suffered in *Ireland*, that know not by what just claim they came here, and are altogether ignorant of the manner of our cruell entrance at the first, I have truly opened this little unto them, to the end they may not be so inveterate against that nation, but freely reconcile if God be pleased we may once again unite, and each one enjoy their proper interests; we must not be like the dog that bites and snarles at the stone, not regarding the hand which throws it; for my part I take it to be the judgement of God for the cause aforesaid; and to such as are not partiall the *Irish* cruelties will perhaps appear not much more hainous, then our country men might have done in the like case; for except some of the bruit and barbarous sort, and some others that had private spleen and cause (as they thought) for late oppressions, and injuries: the Gentry, and chief of the Septs protected many hundreds and at length convoy'd them safe to our own Garisons, which is more then our countrey men did when they invaded them (as aforesaid) upon so bad a quarrell: and what ever others think, I know there is not a more kind people under heaven to such as they esteem their friends, nor more hospitable to strangers, even beyond their ability: but to wave my own knowledge, I will leave this matter with the saying of a reverend Judge of one of their circuits, viz. *Sir John Davies*. if they be good there's none better, if they be bad there's none worse: if he had lived now, perhaps he had been of another mind; And now you see what title our Kings of *England* had,

if

if theirs were not good we that have been late Planters have a w^r claim: If the Kings were good, why doe we debase that to advance our own? I hope we are not like the husbandmen in the Gospel, that would kill the heire that the vineyard might be their own [*Mat* 21.] God forbid our famous Isle should foster such a generation: therefore I am of opinion with my fellow Souldiers of the Army (if we decoll our King we *English* (as the case then stands) have no businesse there, except it be to claim our personall estates, and moveables which we obtained with our own monies, our wives portions brought out of *England*, for to that I am sure ye have as bad, or worse title then we have to their lands, the premises considered, as touching the Escheats and grants, upon their severall submissions: but if it be true which they the *Irish* do now affirm with their swords in their hands, all this vast expence of blood and treasure, and all these discourages are superfluous: for say they (remember, I do but tell you what they say) we are not at all fallen from our obedience we still maintain and fight for the right of the King of *England* and *Ireland*: If we have done any late outrage to the English Planters, we were constrained unto it to save our own lives, and goods, our liberties and consciences, of all earthly things most deare. These insufferable pressures were contrived by the Schismatics and Sectaries in *England*: we were struck at Root and Branch, our Lands sold over our heads before they had the possession, so full a reckoning they made without their Host.

Thus you see (to preserve the Kings title and our owne deare interests) we had no other way but to break the *English* Plantation, too much poisoned by the foresaid Sects and Schismes. If any cruelties were done by the vulgar sort, it was much averse to the Gentry, and Clergy: it may be imputed to the Judgement of God for the causes aforesaid, as happening collaterall to our purpose, which was onely to resume our Forts and Garisons for the Kings behalfe and our own safety: It is also very false and ridiculous to say we began before you in *England*, (though for prevention) we were a little before you in action, yet were your intentions and consultations manifest unto us long before, directly tending to the subversion (not of the Papacy alone, with us, but of the Protestancy also in *England*, as is at this day wofully obvious to Christian people, with the ruine both of Church and State, the restauration whereof (if any hope be) remains most visible in our Obedience. We were not so dull sighted as the proselytes of *England*, who gave their Money & Jewels for the cause, which they understand not so well as the Mayors horse that run away when their Utopian Act was proclaimed against the Kingly government.

we have Jesuits (we would have you know) as quick of sight, and
perhaps as arrant as the Anabaptists, and the rest of the Schismaticall Sy-
nagogue, and if it come to fighting once more, (never doubt it) we have a
King for your *Oliver* too: & now very strange it is you should deem us
atheists and others (which side with the noble Marques for the right and dignity
of the Crown of *England*) to be Traytors and yet you your selves would
joyn with *Owen O'neal* to bring it to confusion, and to that end have treat-
ed many moneths with him, who is grandchild to Hugh, Earle of *Tyrone*,
the most Arch Traytour that ever was to our nation; if you do not know
we the remainder of the Loyall Irish can tell you how he cost your fa-
mous Queen *Elisabeth* 120000 l to reduce him; besides the best expence
of English blood, with the losse of many noble and brave commanders:
have you not now entertained his Grandchild Agents as aforesaid, to wit
the Vicar Generall *O'Reilly*, the Priest *Macgohagain*, and a third his
crafty messengers? have you not offered him all the Lands in *Ulster* to
take your parts, which was formerly escheated and forfeited to the Crowne of En-
gland upon the Attainder of his said Grandfather *Tirone*, *Shane O'neale*, and the
rest of their Confederates; by this means the British Planters and Proprietars are
denuded, and left without remedy to recover their Lands and goods, so lost as afore-
said, being meetly occasioned by the inveterate schisme: And but for that intolle-
rable revolt of yours from your Allegiance, and ancient Forme of Government, let
no man doubt, but the Irish and English Planters had lived in perfect Amity till this
day: What doe you say? are these laudable practises? truly wee must thinke this
no more Treason in you (that call your selves Saints) then it was in the Devill to
give away all the Kingdomes of the Earth, that was none of his owne, [Math. 4. 9.]
But what of all this? Let us returne to our selves againe; you remember I told you
before hand this was but an Irish Tale, and I pray you so thinke of it, for an Irish
Game (you know) hath an Irish trick, then let us leave it where wee found it: I am
(you see) in an ample field, and might dilate, but it is reserved to another place (if I
be fairly intreated) only a little of the wonder that possesseth many who have been
old Soldiers, Officers, and Planters in Ireland, and are yet kept from that service,
when so many others (but halfe codled) have been admitted; yong Gamesters may
play the fore game with subtilty and craft; but the old Officers and Planters, say
(under favour) they are most like to contrive the after-game with best judgement
and reason; and such as are not of this opinion (say they) have a better minde to
our Lands and goods wee left behinde, then they have to our company; yet now
they thinke the wiser Slave discernes what is amisse, and will have a care to prevent all
future underminings. O pattern of ignorances, egregious simplicians to have such
a conceit, for now we speake in our owne persons; doe they not know that we are
the humble Saints, and the meeke must inherit the earth? Now wee have it; if
hypocriticall meeknesse will not doe it, wee will see Jo: a Leidon, and Knipper-
dolling; wee will make all the Princes and Magistrates in Europe stinke againe:
(for now it is no Treason to say Princes may stinke) what's got by Rapine, Murder,
and Treason, must be kept by rigor, Atheism, and all impiety. Have at it then, pell,
mell, (if not to Heaven) Let's hand in hand to hell.

And so good Reader now thou hast what mine is,
I make an end, and thus conclude with — FINIS.